MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 APRIL 1981

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Foreign Ministry Statement--A 16 April Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio, accepted a denial by Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti that he had made pro-Iraqi remarks during an interview. The Foreign Ministry said that its earlier statement, on 14 April, strongly criticizing Chatti had been issued because at the time he had not yet denied making the remarks, which the ministry said it had learned of through a PARS report. It added that the criticisms contained in the 14 April statement remain valid for any individual or delegation holding pro-Iraqi views. PARS issued a statement on 16 April denying responsibility for the misunderstanding. PARS claimed that it had merely made available a report monitored from Jerusalem radio. Tehran radio also broadcast a statement issued by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr criticizing the Foreign Ministry for issuing the 14 April statement, pointing out that it was based on a report broadcast by Jerusalem radio and had not been issued according to correct procedures. Asserting that the issuance of the statement was a violation of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's 16 March guidelines to government officials, the president's statement said the issue will be referred to the three-man committee investigating differences among Iran's leaders.

Syrian Involvement--Citing Arab League sources, the Jordanian daily AR-RA'Y reported that last week Iraq submitted a memorandum to the Arab League secretary general concerning Syria's participation on Iran's side in the Iraq-Iran war. The memorandum said Iraq had forced a Syrian plane "supporting Iran" to land in Iraq and had discovered secret documents on board. Iraq has reserved the right to take whatever action it deems fit to deal with is matter.

Military Situation--An Iraqi General Command communique, broadcast by Baghdad radio, and accounts broadcast by Tehran radio reported continued fighting along western and southern fronts. Tehran radio said Iraqi artillery fire on Abadan damaged several Iranian oil installations.

Iran

Bani-Sadr Queries Mahdavi-Kani--A letter from President Bani-Sadr to Interior Minister Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani, broadcast textually by Tehran radio, demanded an explanation for the suspension of by elections in certain constituencies that have no Majlis deputies. He pointed out that the Majlis recently approved the holding of such by elections and that the Constitution forbids the suspension of elections unless the president suggests they be suspended and three-quarters of the Majlis agree.

Raja'i on Foreign Ministry--PARS reported that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i has said that until a foreign minister is appointed, he will run the Foreign Ministry.

MIZAN Director Released--Citing ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, AFP reported that Esma'il Yazdi, director of the newspaper MIZAN, who was arrested along with MIZAN publisher Reza Sadr on 6 April, was released after posting bail of $140,000. Sadr, it added, has refused to post bail.

Lebanon

Israeli Raid--Citing an IDF spokesman, Jerusalem radio reported that Israeli Air Force planes attacked a terrorist base in the Ra's al-'Ayn area of southern Lebanon, accurately hitting their targets. Confirming the raid, Beirut radio said Ar-Rashidiyah camp was also hit and 10 casualties resulted.

Bashir al-Jumayyil Statement--According to Voice of Lebanon radio, Phalangist military commander Bashir al-Jumayyil told a Beirut press conference that he is ready to hold a dialogue with Syria in order to find an in-depth solution to the Lebanese problem. He said the Phalangists are willing to offer certain guarantees to Syria provided the guarantees are mutual, and he asserted that his forces could guarantee that Lebanon would not become a base for violence against Syria.

EC Chairman Arrives--Beirut radio reported that Christoph van der Klaauw, Netherlands foreign minister and chairman of the EC Council of Ministers, arrived in Lebanon to follow up the European initiative on the Middle East. The radio later reported that Van der Klaauw met with President Ilyas Sarkis, after which Van der Klaauw said they had discussed the Lebanese crisis and that Europe is continuing its efforts to help the Lebanese Government resolve it.

Syria-Jordan

Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin, who was released in the Lebanese town of Shtawrah on 14 April after having been kidnapped and held since 6 February by the Lebanese national confrontation front, told a Damascus television correspondent during a videotaped interview that he had been well treated by the front's "comrades" during his captivity. He stressed that the front is a strictly Lebanese organization and that Syria had nothing to do with his kidnapping. Al-Muhaysin expressed appreciation and gratitude for Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's efforts to obtain his release and expressed his pleasure at being in Damascus. Later Damascus radio reports said President al-Asad met with Al-Muhaysin, who then left for Jordan. On returning to Jordan, Al-Muhaysin told a press conference, broadcast by Amman television, that he had gone to Damascus instead of Beirut after his release because he had been handed over to the Arab Deterrent Forces and given no choice. He added that he had been asked to thank President al-Asad and had stayed in Damascus for 2 days because the Syrian authorities had told him he needed a rest. He declined to answer further questions.

Palestine National Council

In a 15 April speech to the Palestine National Council (PNC) session, reported by Damascus radio, Fatah official Salah Khalaf praised Syria's steadfastness against the Camp David agreements and against "imperialist-Zionist" campaigns. He criticized the Jordanian regime, calling for suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and he said that alternate methods must be found to do the work of the Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee. According to a 15 April commentary by Damascus radio's "Palestine Broadcast," the majority of those attending the PNC session have agreed that the European initiative on the Middle East is merely a "diplomatic maneuver" under U.S. aegis that serves the Camp David signatories and that responding to the initiative under such circumstances would be a waste of time. Fatah representative to the PNC 'Isam as-Sartawi resigned from the council, QNA reported, because he was refused the right to defend himself before the PNC concerning his recent contacts with certain Israelis. The report added that As-Sartawi was violently attacked for such contacts.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PNC SUBCOMMITTEES MEET; 15 APR SESSION 'VIOLENT'

Subcommittee Topics

JN161718 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] The six subcommittees of the Palestine National Council [PNC] began their meetings today in the Damascus University hall. These subcommittees are: the political subcommittee, the legal subcommittee, the financial subcommittee, the military subcommittee, the occupied homeland affairs subcommittee, and the popular organization subcommittee which was added yesterday.

The subcommittees are still continuing the discussion of the topics on their agendas in order to emerge with decisions to be submitted for ratification to a general session which might be held tomorrow morning.

The political subcommittee debated three topics: 1) the political department, which includes the PLO offices abroad; the subject of UNRWA; the work of the next PNC session; and the consolidation of national unity; 2) the Arab department, which includes relations with Jordan, Lebanon and Syria; Arab solidarity; the Iraqi-Iranian war; the establishment of a broad Arab front; the PLO's role; imperialist schemes; and the Arab Gulf; and 3) the international department, which includes the current international situation; the U.S. stand against the PLO; relations with the socialist bloc; President Brezhnev's peace initiative; and cohesion with world forces.

The military subcommittee put on its agenda three main topics: 1) the mobilization of the Palestinian masses and the unification of their efforts within the framework of the PLO; 2) the unification of forces of the Palestinian revolution's groups; and 3) the development of military action within the framework of the Palestine Liberation Army as a basic force of the organization.

In another development the social affairs subcommittee discussed the report submitted by the social affairs department on the subject of education and culture and the work of the popular Palestinian organizations with Palestinian concentrations in the camps and other areas. It also discussed the education of Palestinians in UNRWA schools.

The occupied homeland affairs subcommittee discussed social conditions in the occupied homeland, the search for job opportunities, increased standard of living and the covering of deficits in the occupied land.

The financial subcommittee discussed the importance of consolidating fund raising and expenditures within the framework of the Palestinian National Fund, focusing on important matters in the PLO's institutions.

Member Resigns

JN161747 Doha QNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Damascus, 16 Apr (QNA)--Dr 'Isam as-Sartawi, Palestine National Council [PNC] member representing the Fatah movement, tendered his resignation from the council today because some PNC members refused to give him the right to speak in order to defend himself and give details of the activities and contacts he has recently held with the Israeli democratic and progressive forces.

Last night's session of the PNC was a violent one, in which a number of the PNC members launched a violent attack against Dr as-Sartawi due to his contacts with some Israelis in Europe.

AL-MAJALLAH INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT ON LEBANON, JORDAN

LD161535 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 18-24 Apr 81 pp 1-3

[Interview granted by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Wahib Muhammad Ghurab in Jidda "during the PLO Executive Committee chairman's participation in efforts of committee mediating between Iraq and Iran"]

[Excerpts] [Question] In the past few days the situation in Lebanon has exploded in a manner not seen for a long time, and Israel has launched attacks on southern Lebanon that threaten its peace and security. How do you evaluate the situation at present?

[Answer] First I would like to say that the situation in southern Lebanon is very grave. The daily attacks and the land, air and sea operations against the Palestinians and the Lebanese that are taking place in southern Lebanon reflect a major plan drawn up against Lebanon and the Palestinians. Our reconnaissance recently indicated the presence of large Israeli military concentrations on the southern Lebanese borders: There are about two Israeli divisions in the area of Marj 'Uyun, Al-Manarah, Al-Khalisah, and Al-Khiyam. And I must point out here the savage shelling of Sidon and Tyre a few days ago in which 175-mm guns were used, which are known to be the only type of guns that can reach Sidon. Only Israel has this artillery, so it cannot be claimed that Sidon was shelled by Sa'd Haddad. This is in addition to the land and sea shelling of Sidon. All these actions were carried out by Israel. Sidon was shelled by tanks from Tallat al-Bayyadah, and the Israelis made several attempts to occupy the Al-Qasimiyah bridge by landing operations. As for Sa'd Haddad, whose name is being deliberately mentioned in this regard, he is no more than an Israeli tool. What is ridiculous is that some people believe that Sa'd Haddad has the power to move. All the operations are being carried out by Israel, which is using internationally banned U.S. weapons for which southern Lebanon is a proving ground as Vietnam was in the past. The aim of the present military operations and escalation is to deal a blow to the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces. In order to prepare the ground for the so-called "new solutions" which are being proposed contrary to the will of the Palestinian people and its legitimate representative. This is also part of Begin's plan which he thinks will help him to win the election battle.

[Question] It is being said that the Palestine National Council [PNC] which is to meet in Damascus will witness important changes in its structure and tasks. Can you tell us something about this?

[Answer] The meeting, as you know, is held regularly. The council is its own master and makes the changes it deems fit under the circumstances. It is free to increase the number of its members or take suitable political and organizational steps as it wants, because it is the highest lawful authority of the Palestinian people. But the term of this council expires during the current session, and it is supposed to be replaced by the next session. We will take decisions on the formation of the council and the manner in which it is to be formed.

[Question] How do you view the situation in the occupied territories, and how do you evaluate the position of the Jordanian-Palestinian meeting for the support of the inhabitants of the occupied territories?

[Answer] You know that the Baghdad summit adopted several decisions regarding the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories and has formed a Palestinian-Jordanian committee to coordinate work between the two sides and to back our people's steadfastness with funds allocated at the Baghdad summit. It is true that not all the money is being paid to the joint committee, but whatever the committee receives is spent on projects inside the occupied territories and on financing municipalities, village councils and agricultural and commercial cooperatives.

[Question] Does the recent fedayeen operation carried out against Israel by gliders mean that there is a change in resistance tactics in the fight against the Israeli enemy?

[Answer] Before talking about the operation, there is a point that must be made clear to everybody, namely that there can be no barrier to separate us from our land. The officials in Israel must realize that the use of early warning systems and other equipment which the United States supplies to them cannot prevent us from reaching our land. What happened in this operation was that we used gliders, which are a simple means compared with their devilish sophisticated facilities which, unfortunately, are American.

[Question] If I were to ask you about the latest development in the Arab arena, namely Sudan's action to restore relations with Egypt, what would you say, and what is your opinion in the subject?

[Answer] This is an extremely grave matter. It represents an attempt to disregard the resolutions adopted in Baghdad and endorsed at the Tunis summit. Also, this step represents an attempt to break the isolation of As-Sadat and his regime as well as an attempt to drag Sudan into the Camp David position. I would like to affirm here that the Camp David accords have reached a dead end and that the tonics they are being given here and there will be of no avail. Suffice it to cite here the Israeli military governor of the West Bank and Gaza, who said: "I have not found a single Palestinian willing to cooperate with us in the so-called autonomous rule."

[Question] There are many attempts made to upset Palestinian-Jordanian relations by talking about the so-called "Jordanian option." What is your opinion of that option?

[Answer] I would like to say that there are indeed those who talk about the Jordanian option. The Israeli Labor Party program, which the party approved in September 1980, advocates the Jordanian option. Shim'on Peres was elected party leader on this basis. Some of the European countries have also spoken about the so-called "Jordanian option." When Reagan attacked the PLO and the Palestinian people he also spoke about the Jordanian option. We do not say that there is aboslutely no question of the Jordanian option. But King Husayn has rejected this option. And, as I said in my message to the Palestinian revolutionaries and fighters, there is only the Palestinian option. I challenge anyone who says that there is an option other than the Palestinian option.

[Question] Do you believe that King Husayn would join Camp David?

[Answer] In my estimation, no. King Husayn himself announced this recently during the meetings of the third Islamic summit in At-Ta'if.

[Question] The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front is in a deep slumber despite the current events in the Arab arena.

[Answer] Is it alone in this deep slumber?

[Question] Why, therefore, does the front not meet and issue a statement, as it usually does about the restoration of relations between Egypt and Sudan.

[Answer] Aden called for a meeting, and the political committee of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which consists of the foreign ministers, approved the meeting. I discussed the question of this meeting with President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad during my recent visit to Aden, and we will be continuing discussion about fixing a time for the committee meeting.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH LEBANESE LEADERS ON FRENCH MOVE

NC161634 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] The PLO and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement have resumed their meetings, contacts and moves to confront the serious dimensions of the French initiative. This initiative, which is an attempt to internationalize the Lebanese crisis, is coupled with the escalation of the Zionist movements in southern Lebanon and the preparations that are being made by the Phalangist militia along the contact lines in Beirut and in northern Al-Matn preliminary to exploding the situation in the Lebanese arena.

In this connection Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today met with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami and former Prime Minister Sayib Salam in the presence of former Prime Minister Taqyi ad-Din as-Sulh. On the Palestinian side the meetings were attended by Brother Abu al-Walid [Col Sa'd Sayil], member of Fatah Central Committee.

The discussions at the two meetings dealt with the current situation in the area and the situation in the Lebanese arena, in particular, and the dimensions of the French initiative for the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis.

PALESTINIAN LEADER DETAILS BALLOON RAID ON ISRAEL

JN162000 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Damascus, 16 Apr (SANA)--Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front, has announced that the fedayeen group that carried out the matyr Kamal Nasir operation in the occupied territories at dawn today managed to cross all the Zionist security belts in northern Palestine and that the enemy discovered the balloon only 2 hours after its takeoff.

In a press conference here this afternoon attended by a number of the front's command members, Tal'at Ya'qub said that the enemy admitted this operation, and, as usual, they tried to show that the group could not reach the occupied territories and that the balloon was hit and downed by their ground fire before it reached the earth. However, he said, the enemy issued another statement, in which they said that the two balloonists were killed by the armed forces after a short chase.

Ya'qub said that such falsehoods emphasize the perplexity caused by the operation among the Zionist information organs. He stressed that this operation had proven the Palestinian fighter's capability to penetrate all the Zionist security belts despite all Zionist precautions. It also confirms the Palestinian fighter's determination to continue the march of his revolution until liberation and victory.

BAHRAIN

AL-QABAS INTERVIEWS INFORMATION MINISTER

GF161903 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 16 Apr 81 p 19

[Yahya Hamzah interview with Bahraini Information Minister Tariq Al-Mu'ayyad in Bahrain--date not given]

[Excerpts] Bahraini Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad has asserted that the age of international pressure has gone for good and that relations between the Arab Gulf countries and the superpowers, and particularly the United States, are based on mutual political and economic interests.

The Bahraini information minister asserted that Bahrain supports the efforts of the good offices committee to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and believes than an end to this war will be a factor in consolidating stability in the entire Gulf region.

Referring to the results of U.S. Secretary of State Haig's visit to the region, the Bahraini information minister said the United States is a superpower and has strong relations with and great interests in the countries of the area. Any visit by a U.S. official to the Gulf and Arab countries is in our interest, because it gives the U.S. administration an opportunity to acquaint itself at close hand with conditions in the area and to understand the views of the region's leaders and officials.

Tariq al-Mu'ayyad added: We complain that some U.S. decisions are made without due consideration to the region's interests or without full awareness of its views and stands. Therefore, Haig's visit provided the new U.S. administration with an opportunity to acquaint itself with the region's views on various important region and international issues and to directly discuss the best way to tackle these issues. The visit also provided an opportunity to discuss the region's role in international prosperity and to stress the region's desire to insure the continued flow of oil in line with its concern for international interests.

Haig's visit to Saudi Arabia also provided the Riyadh government with an opportunity to stress to him--on behalf of all Gulf countries--that it continues to uphold the pan-Arab view on issues of destiny and above all the Middle East question.

[Question] During his visit did not Haig try to press some of the countries of the area to adopt stands that are more in line with U.S. policy?

[Answer] The age of pressure has gone. It is no longer acceptable or relevant to succumb to any specific pressure from any superpower whatever the circumstances. Our dealings with the superpowers are based on mutual understanding and reciprocal interests--be they political, economic or commercial. Joint cooperation is the basis of contemporary international politics. The Gulf regon is no longer affected by any threats, nor does it bow to any pressures. It relies on its own strength and joint coordination, particularly following the formation of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council.

[Question] With regard to the Soviet Union, does not the absence of diplomatic relations with it conflict with realistic considerations that stem from the Soviet role in international politics, in view of the fact that it is an influential international superpower?

[Answer] From the point of view of formalities, the exchange of diplomatic representatives is important. However, there is a more important consideration, and that is the practical aspect. From this angle a mutual recognition between the Gulf countries and the Soviet Union exists, and contacts and meetings in international forums take place. Finally, there remains the question of "diplomatic form," and we believe there will be an appropriate time for this. The point we want to stress is that we are anxious to keep the Gulf region away from the arena of international conflicts. All Gulf countries are agreed on this in principle, policy and practice.

[Question] How far has cooperation among the Gulf countries in the information field gone in achieving its aims?

[Answer] Gulf cooperation in the information field has gone a long way. Numerous joint institutions have been established, and information policies and plans are coordinated. During the recent conference of Arab Gulf information ministers in Muscat, it was decided to draw up a joint Gulf information plan to address the West through organized media in a studied manner and with a single, unified voice.

We have sought to make Bahrain a center for the offices of international news agencies in the Gulf, and we have succeeded in this. All major international news agencies now have offices in Bahrain. We cooperate with the correspondents of these news agencies and extend all possible facilities to them.

We have to admit that there is a gap in understanding between the Arab and Western worlds. This gap can be bridged through information and by establishing good relations with foreign news agencies and their correspondents in the region. Add to this another important point. I do not believe that the presence of many local news agencies in the area is helpful in communicating news of local events to the outside world in the way we want. The news being transmitted by these news agencies does not tempt any international news agency or newspaper to report or cite them.

UAE

AL-FAJR SAYS U.S., USSR SUPPORT ARAB SEPARATISTS

GF161133 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 14 Apr 81 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The general strategy of the United States and the Soviet Union is to stand behind and support all separatist movements, especially those in our Arab homeland--which is considered to be an important center of resources, particularly of petroleum. There are, in our Arab homeland, a number of factors that favor the spread of separatist movements--enabling the United States and the Soviet Union to guarantee the continuation of conflict in the region and thus the permanent presence of an open arms market as well as the continuation of backwardness in the region and the subsequent opportunity to exhaust our resources for the continuation of their own advanced industry.

The superpowers encourage separatism in our homeland in order to divide our states into smaller, powerless states and thus impose their influence over them and render them targets of easy exploitation. Hence, the United States seeks to fragment Lebanon and divide it: It has called for the deployment of foreign forces in Lebanon in order to protect the Christians and thus insure Lebanon's division under an international umbrella.

Exploding the situation in Lebanon at this particular time, which coincides with the tours made by Haig and his assistant in the region, as well as the increased Soviet maneuvers in Afghanistan and the increase in its forces there fall within a plan to force the Arab states to enter military alliances with either of the two superpowers. Indeed, this is proof that the two superpowers have adopted an identical policy: Those Arab states that fear the Soviet Union will side with the United States while the others will seek refuge with the Soviet Union. We are being threatened by fragmentation and division--which may occur if the various contradictory trends in our homeland flourish.

Despite all these attempts at fragmentation, and despite all the threats posed by the two superpowers, we believe that we are capable of firmly confronting the superpowers and of managing without joining an alliance with either of them regardless of the type of threat.

The only guarantees available for our nation are self-confidence, cohesion and quick decisionmaking, particularly with regard to the Gulf Cooperation Council, which will constitute the region's strong support against all threats and the means to achieve security and peace.

SENATOR BAKER, AS-SADAT MEET, ADDRESS PRESS

NC161727 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA)--This afternoon President Anwar as-Sadat received Senator Howard Baker, U.S. Senate majority leader, and the delegation accompanying him, at his rest house in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah. The meeting was attended by the U.S. Ambassador in Cairo, Alfred Atherton. Following the approximately 90-minute-long meeting, President as-Sadat and Senator Baker held a press conference during which they answered newsmen's questions.

As-Sadat, in a short welcoming speech, said: I want to take this opportunity to express my happiness at receiving Senator Baker and the delegation accompanying him. We have had fruitful and intensive talks on various issues relevant to the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as overall security and bilateral relations.

As-Sadat further said: I take this opportunity to express my and my people's gratitude for the understanding and aid Senator Baker personally and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives have shown and offered to us. This is an opportunity for me to thank the American people, who are distinghished for bravery, and my friend Senator Baker for the warm welcome accorded my wife on her U.S. visit. We will never forget this. President as-Sadat concluded his statement by saying: What I can say to the courageous American people is that you can rely on Egypt as a friend in both hard times and good times.

Senator Howard Baker than made a speech in reply to President as-Sadat's, in which he said: On my own behalf and on behalf of the delegation accompanying me--including members of the U.S. Senate and representatives of the President--I say that is a great honor for us to be received by President as-Sadat, who the American people consider one of the world's greatest leaders of peace. Furthermore, in the United States he is regarded as one of the most respected foreign leaders. This is owing to his contribution to the achievement of peace not only in the Middle East area but also throughout the world.

I convey to President as-Sadat President Reagan's greetings and expressions of respect, and the President's determination that the United States will remain Egypt's friend. This is not only in keeping with our joint quest for peace and for implementing the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel but also in keeping with our desire to bolster peace throughout the area.

Senator Howard Baker added: I believe that the United States is taking a fresh view of Egypt and of President as-Sadat in an attempt to achieve a better understanding and to provide new avenues tending to butress the relations existing between the two sides and also helping to emphasize the realization that a great and enormous danger is posed to world peace through the continuing Soviet foreign policy based on adventurism, whether in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen or in other states of the Middle East and Africa.

President as-Sadat has been kind enough to discuss with us his viewpoints and ideas about the coming negotiations between the United States and the other Arab states and about the coming steps to be taken in the peace process. I will convey President as-Sadat's recommendations and proposals to President Reagan and to Secretary of State Alexander Haig, in addition to informing my colleagues in the Senate and in Congress about these recommendations and proposals.

After President as-Sadat and Senator Howard Baker delivered their opening speeches, they answered reporters' questions.

Asked about the supply of U.S. AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia, President as-Sadat said: I have expressed my views on this matter to my friend Senator Baker and his colleagues.

Despite the fact that Saudi Arabia and others, as you know, have broken off relations with me--I have told them that we should not each sit in his own country like a blind person not seeing what is going on around us in the world, because what is happening around us is extremely serious--I have explained to my friends Baker and his colleagues what is happening in the region on the map, and I support the supply of AWACS to Saudi Arabia.

I myself have asked for a certain type of aircraft, the type they have given Israel. We must not sit like blind people not seeing or sensing anything while everything around us is moving, lest one day something happens to our surprise, something that should not happen.

Answering a question about U.S.-Egyptian relations, President as-Sadat said: I believe that U.S.-Egyptian relations are now solid to the point where we may differ but still can sit together and work together toward the achievement of our major goal--peace. I also think that our friendship is extremely strong.

Asked about the arms race in the Middle East, President as-Sadat said: It is not an arms race. What is happening in Libya is something, we can say, more than an arms race, because many of the states which have common borders with Libya, like Chad and Niger, cannot buy even one tank and cannot stockpile arms and have an arsenal like Libya's.

President as-Sadat added: An arms race may occur anywhere else in the world. Here, however, it is not regarded as an arms race at all. There are all kinds of dangers around Saudi Arabia, in the Gulf--Iran and Afghanistan. To the south there is South Yemen, which is considered a Soviet base. And there is Bab el-Mandeb, which is under Soviet influence, and also Ethiopia, Chad and Libya. So when Saudi Arabia and I ask for electronic equipment to enable us to know what is going on around us, so as not be taken by surprise, why do you call it an arms race. Israel has received this advanced equipment, so why shouldn't Saudi Arabia and Egypt also get it? I am not asking for AWACS, I am asking for the lesser type.

Answering a question on the armament and training of the Egyptian Army and its connection with the United States, President as-Sadat said: I believe that we have the pilots and we have most modern technology. The October war was the first and last electronic and missile war in the area. It reached a point not reached by the big states in practice so far. Let us hope that it will not happen again.

President as-Sadat added: I will ask for the training of Egyptian pilots, but let me tell you in general terms, I have always expressed my views to my friends in the Senate and House of Representatives, that we in Egypt do not want any American soldier to defend us because we have the troops. Arms are all we want. We mean modern weapons. These weapons will never, never be used for aggression. It is just that we do not want to sit here and not know what is going on around us. Saudi Arabia is in the same position, despite the fact that it is openly opposed to us. Egypt will always be responsible for peace in the Arab and Islamic worlds. I do not at all ask for any American soldier to be present.

Answering a question about Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai, President as-Sadat said that he is not concerned about that.

Asked about the results of his talks with President as-Sadat today, Senator Baker replied: President as-Sadat and Egypt are not directly connected with the proposal related to the sale of AWACS aircraft or additional advanced equipment for the Saudi F-15 aircraft, but President as-Sadat has shown a deep and unique understanding of the tensions and dangers threatening both the region and the chances for peace. He has helped us by offering his advice and expressing his views. Furthermore, my talks with President as-Sadat dealt with the next step in the peace process, the Camp David agreement and the orderly withdrawal of the forces from the Sinai, scheduled to be completed in 1982.

Senator Baker added: We have sought the views of President as-Sadat on the proposal for the sale of equipment in his capacity as a prominent leader with foresight. The president has expressed support for the sale. I will undoubtedly take this advice into consideration when we begin deliberations on these sales.

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 16 APR FOR TALKS

Arrival, Greeting Comments

NC161235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA)--Greek Foreign Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis arrived in Cairo today heading an official delegation on a 5-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. The Greek minister was met on arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Greek Ambassador in Cairo Ioannis Yiannakakis.

On his arrival the Greek foreign minister said: I am happy to visit Egypt, which is linked with Greece from ancient times by firm and strong relations, as both peoples have the same objective. He said that the cooperation between the two countries was evident in the presence of a large Greek community in Egypt and an Egyptian community in Greece and that Greeks have supported Egypt in its crises, such as the Suez Canal pilots crisis.

He added: We are watching all that is being accomplished in your country, particularly the peace process led by your leader, President Anwar as-Sadat. Greece supports Egypt in its stand to restore the occupied Arab territory. Our country also supports the rights of the Palestinian people and Greece's stand was similar to that of the EEC. Concluding his statement the Greek minister said that he would hold negotiaitons with the Egyptian officials on several subjects.

In a reply statement, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: This visit was well timed. It confirms Greece's role among the European states and it aims at strengthening the relations between our two countries. The two countries have been a bridge for transporting the Egyptian and Greek culture and hence Greece's stand has the elements of understanding and cooperation. On this occasion, I welcome our guest and the delegation accompanying him wishing them a good stay.

He added: The subjects which will be raised in our negotiations include Egyptian manpower, maritime aspects, and certain political subjects of bilateral interest, for the benefit of which Greece is working in a spirit of cooperation and friendship.

The Greek minister is due to meet today with Deputy Prime Minister for Financial and Economic Affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid. This afternoon he will also meet with Kamal Hasan 'Ali to discuss international problems of concern to the two countries, particularly the Middle East problem.

The Greek minister will visit Alexandria Friday morning. On Saturday he will meet with Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Sufi Abu Talib. That same day he will then hold a second round of talks with Kamal Hasan 'Ali to discuss the Egyptian workers problem in Greece and the bilateral relations and means of promoting them.

Egyptian Ambassador to Greece Sa'd 'Afrah arrived aboard the same plane to take part in the talks.

'Ali Comments on Talks

NC162240 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that the talks he held with the Greek foreign minister focused on the situation in the Middle East and that both countries agreed on the need to establish peace in the area. Both sides also agreed to resolve the pending issues between Egypt and Greece, the status of Egyptians working in Greece and Greeks working in Egypt, the release of frozen assets as well as [words indistinct]

'Ali praised the relations linking both countries. He said that protocols on these agreements will be signed next Saturday. Further talks between the Greek and Egyptian sides will be held Saturday.

SWEDEN'S ULLSTEN MAKES STATEMENT ON AREA, ISSUES

NC161654 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Swedish Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ola Ullsten has told our radio correspondent that his country is following with interest the efforts Egypt is exerting for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East area. He said that disappointing changes have occurred in the region recently that have increased the already existing tension. He said that foremost of these developments is the continued violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, the death and destruction which Lebanon is witnessing and which have become a daily occurrence and the separate actions by Israel in Jerusalem and the West Bank--actions that hinder peace--and the Palestinians' failure to participate in the peace talks. He said that Sweden believes that, in addition to the need to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as well as their right to self-determination, UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 are the basis for achieving a comprehensive solution.

He said that the dialogue between the Palestinian and Israeli sides on the basis of mutual recognition is necessary for resolving the Palestinian question. President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has emphasized that this is the core of the conflict and that no comprehensive peace can be established without resolving it. His Excellency also praised the Swedish-Egyptian relations.

OIL MINISTER DENIES SELLING OIL AT REDUCED PRICE

NC162218 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] 'Izz ad-Din Hilal, deputy prime minster and petroleum minister, has stated that Egyptian oil will be sold at an international auction that takes place annually in November. Hilal said that contracts have been concluded with international oil companies to export the Egyptian oil at prices set by Egypt. He said that the basis of these contracts is that agreements on prices will be made every 3 months. Accordingly, the prices of oil were studied in April and Egypt reduced its oil prices by $2 to $3 per barrel, according to its quality. Egypt has (?specified) its oil prices to all countries that buy Egyptian oil and has not given any special reduction to any country.

Earlier today Israeli radio reported that Egypt had complied with an Israel request and announced officially a reduction in the price of oil sold to Israel.

OFFICIAL EXPLAINS ARMS-PURCHASING POLICY

LD161351 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 13 Apr 81 p 11

[By Shakir al-Jawhrai]

[Excerpts] Baghdad--Why do others have the right to buy potatoes and tomatoes from Egypt if Iraq has no right to buy arms in a purely commercial deal that has nothing to do with politics? This was a question put to me by a senior Iraqi information official to counter my question to him about the truth regarding Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's announcement that Egypt has sold Iraq Soviet arms and ammunition manufactured under the authority of the Egyptian Military Industries Organization.

The Iraqi official said: Yes, we have bought arms from Egypt through middlemen and not through direct contact with as-Sadat's regime. This has not led to any change in Iraq's attitude to As-Sadat's sellout of the Arab nation. We still condemn the Camp David accords and As-Sadat's treaty in surrendering to the Zionist enemy. We still adhere to the Baghdad summit resolutions, under which the Arabs severed their political and economic relations with As-Sadat's regime. It was we who called for this summit and it was largely thanks to us that the Arab countries were convinced of the need to adopt tougher measures against As-Sadat's regime. We still remain the main target of As-Sadat's malice and abuse, even after we bought arms from him through a third party. He was abusive even in the very statement in which he announced that we had bought arms from Egypt.

I asked the Iraqi official: Do you really believe that arms today have become like potatoes in transactions between states?

He said: With the presence of middlemen and the black market arms are no longer a political commodity as they were when it was possible to buy arms only from their source. The state of affairs in Iraq and in Iran as well is the best evidence of this. Today, under the pressure of need, we buy arms from every source except from the Zionist enemy. Despite the attitude of many international parties toward us, we still obtain Eastern-manufactured arms from the socialist countries through middlemen, despite these countries' knowledge that the arms are being bought for Iraq. They sell such arms despite their knowledge of the Soviet Union's ban on the shipment of arms to Iraq since the first day of war with Iran. Since that day Iraq has not received a single bullet from the Soviet Union.

The Iraqi official continued: However, the purchase of arms from Egypt satisfied not only an Iraqi need but also an Egyptian need. Despite the policy of diversifying arms sources which Iraq has been pursuing for several years and which in recent times has proved its soundness, and despite all the propaganda aimed at casting doubt on our intentions, Soviet arms still remain the backbone of our army, which has been fighting Iran for more than 7 months. Since the war has continued for so long, it has clearly become necessary to purchase Soviet arms and ammunition from other sources, so that our strategic reserve will not be reduced. This is what we have done, because we cannot allow anyone to steal the victory we have achieved on the battlefield.

He added: On the other hand, As-Sadat, who has hitched his country to the U.S. bandwagon, has decided to switch his sources of armament from the Eastern to the Western countries. This differs from the decision to diversify arms sources. He wants to sell the Soviet arms he possesses because he needs money to prop up his collapsing economy. These are the conditions governing the purchase of arms from Egypt.

Thanks to the policy of purchasing arms from everywhere, we now have more arms than we had at the beginning of the war. We not only buy arms that we need but--and here I will let you into a secret--we also buy arms that the Iranian Army needs as well.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] To prevent Iran from buying arms with which to fight us. Although we cannot empty the market of arms, at least we have raised the price of Western arms in the international market, which makes it difficult for Iran at a time when its economy is in difficulty and it is short of cash.

[Question] What will you do with these arms?

[Answer] We can simply sell them again on the international market after the war is over. Just as we offered arms to Jordan, we can offer the other Arab countries the arms they need. We have in fact offered Jordan quantities of American and Western arms that we captured from the Iranians, because our principal arms are still Soviet.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 308

JN161744 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Communique No 308 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 16 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With enthusiasm and high morale, the brave soldiers of our armed forces continue to deal blows to the forces of the racist Magian Persian enemy in the operational sectors. The results of last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Eight were killed in the Newsud region.
B. Several enemy personnel concentrations were sighted in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region and were hit by our forward units with various weapons, forcing them to flee leaving behind 23 dead.
C. Our units hit an enemy concentration in the Gilan-e Gharb region and forced it to flee, after killing 16 and destroying 1 tank and 1 observation post.
D. Five were killed in the Mehran region.
E. Four were killed in the Dezful region. One of our combat patrols found a quantity of serviceable medium and light weapons in the same region left behind by the enemy infantry force.
F. One of our brave units clashed with an enemy infantry force supported by artillery in the Shush region and strongly hit it with various weapons, forcing it to flee after sustaining 52 dead, a large number of wounded and 1 pile of hardware destroyed.
G. Four were killed and one tank, one field gun and one vehicle loaded with hardware were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangered] region.
H. Our units hit enemy personnel concentrations and positions in the Abadan region with various weapons, inflicting the following losses upon them: 23 killed and 1 armored personnel carrier, 3 vehicles and 4 piles of hardware destroyed.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 135 killed, a large number of wounded and 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 field gun, 4 vehicles, 1 observation post and 5 piles of hardware destroyed.

II. It has been ascertained that enemy losses on 15 April in the Khafajiyah region were 14 dead and 1 tank and 1 vehicle loaded with hardware destroyed in addition to what was announced at the time.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 26 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Eight tanks, five personnel carriers, eight vehicles and two field guns damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 April 1981

PRINCE HASAN VIEWS U.S., USSR, PEACE ISSUE

JN161236 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Apr 81 p 3

["Full text" of journalist Ibrahim Abu Nab's interview conducted in Arabic on April 11 and "published simultaneously today in the JORDAN TIMES, AR-RA'Y and the Kuwaiti Daily AL-QABAS" with Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan--place not given]

[Text] Q. Your Highness, we might have felt a bit awkward hearing Mr. Alexander Haig recently describing his talks in Jordan as frank "in the Western sense of the word." I do wish that frankness in the Eastern sense will be no less. So perhaps we can start with this paradox.

A. It is true we have to distinguish between two kinds of talk within the area and with the outside world. At a time when the Palestinian question is in urgent need of objectivity and real defence, we find ourselves face to face with the element of outbidding, which does not reflect real commitment or the ability to back up words with deeds.

The so-called "hot solutions" called for by some at this particular stage can only hurt our cause and create adverse effects, especially when they are manipulated by the propaganda machine of the enemy to project the Arab world's seeming disarray. In addition to misleading the people, outbidding provides our enemy with ammunition to frustrate sincere efforts.

Q. It seems you are not so optimistic after Mr. Haig's visit.

A. My definition of the pessimist is a well-informed optimist. The question is whether one can be optimistic in reaching a new start in the search for a comprehensive solution to the Palestine question, with its three basic elements of complete Israeli withdrawal; self-determination for the Palestinians on their national soil with the participation of all parties, and the solution of the question of Jerusalem vis-a-vis sovereignty and religious and civil rights.

Q. Has this new start been reached with Mr. Haig, or is there any likelihood of reaching it?

A. In as much as he came to listen and find the facts, we have done our best. We showed him an authentic and documentary proof of the fact that Israel, government and opposition, has bypassed self-determination and rights for the Palestinians.

Israel's game of stressing the last phases of withdrawal and putting Gaza first has been exposed for what it is worth. It is of course to gain time enough to change the facts and the demographic character of the occupied lands, so that Israel can come out in the end for self-determination for the inhabitants after getting rid of the people who should determine in the first place. This game is well known now to the world.

Q. How far did the element of comprehensive participation proceed?

A. We believe that comprehensive withdrawal and comprehensive participation are essential for comprehensive peace. It must be remembered that even the Camp David accords provided for Soviet participation in the end, even though the Soviets of course reject it. But it is well recognised that the USSR is a fact of life in the area, and it has its own concept for a comprehensive solution based on Security Council resolutions.

One can hardly picture the United States alone carrying the burden of comprehensive peace in the area, since withdrawal from the rest of the occupied Arab lands is much more difficult than withdrawal from the barren desert of Sinai, which still faces great difficulties in the framework of the Camp David process. The United States must visualise a participation by those who can help change the picture.

Q. How much can the Europeans help change the picture?

A. It was clear from the last meeting between the British and the Americans that the European initiative can complement the American effort not, as alleged by some, in bringing Camp David out of its isolation; but I think in as much as there is room to develop further the documents of Venice and Luxembourg towards the necessity of Palestinian participation.

However, it does not seem that the thinking of this American administration is yet ripe enough in this respect. It may be premature for them to comment either positively or negatively at this stage on Palestinian participation.

Q. What are the means at our disposal to help the American thinking ripen?

A. The means at the disposal of the Arabs are many and various, if they only practise clarity, objectivity and avoid outbidding among themselves. As far as Jordan is concerned, it was clear from His Majesty King Husayn's lecture at the British military staff academy at Camberley that no security concepts in the area can take priority over the Palestinian question. The wealth and resources of this area can only be safeguarded by its citizens, who must be convinced first of the achievement of justice in Palestine.

Q. Can the five points in the Jordanian initiative as contained in his majesty's lecture be considered as an Arab answer to the so-called "strategic consensus," and a way out of the Camp David tunnel?

A. The five points have met with approval in the Arab world. The Arab-Iranian conflict between Iraq and Iran, which should have been replaced by cooperation in the spirit of Islam, demonstrates an aspect of Arab readiness to defend the number one economic vital interest of the Arabs, which is oil.

I believe that the exclusion of this area from big power competition, as proposed by his majesty the king, and the attainment of an economic consensus in a civilised way between oil and world economic security, is an issue of the so-called North-South dialogue. It is of great interest to this part of the world, so that there can be a South-North dialogue in which the world can take an Arab exposition of the problem and its solution, in the interest of continued stability in the area for the future.

Q. Would your highness then consider the Jordanian initiative as part of an Arab and Islamic vision towards a new world economic order?

A. I believe that such an initiative, even though Jordanian it is, represents the real ambitions of this area, and can be construed as you have just suggested.

Q. We have spent well over 14 years, and many years before that, waiting for diplomatic solutions for not-so-diplomatic issues. Zionism, sir, is a combination of problems smiting the area which are ideological, economic, social, historical, psychological etc... Can we really expect a just and comprehensive solution on the diplomatic front only, even if the American, Soviet and European views meet? Isn't there a need for a deeper search?

A. There is a need for the immediate and the far reaching. I would remind you that there were two such agreements between West Germany and the allies, as well as the Eastern block, immediately after the Second World War. During the last three decades, the concept of detente was built.

I believe that the conflict on Arab land which took well over five decades is entitled at this stage to a detente. This area is not in need only of a comprehensive political concept for the peace and security of its peoples, but also needs concentration on the details of the picture of the future, including the economic and social strategy needed for the security of the eighties.

There is also a need for reconciliation between the spiritual values and the materialistic values of this age. I believe that the traditional communal coexistence and amity in this area has been greatly distorted by the policies of "divide and rule" pursued by those who seek influence in this area. The tragic situation in Lebanon is but an example of the consequences of such policies. The peoples of this area must in all sincerity and clarity see the negative aspects of the conflict in Lebanon.

You have an Israeli society coming generally from the north and claiming in one way or another to represent the concepts of Western democracy and modern technology. On the other hand, the indigenous populations moved away from one another after independence, economically, socially and culturally. One wonders what are the chances of reintegration between all these peoples. I think that the next decade needs, as a prelude, to concentrate upon the real and deeper issues facing the peoples of the area, most prominent of which is of course the search for indigenous democracy springing from the Arab concepts of equality.

How well it would be to try and find in the light of the Arab common experience of parliamentary democracy a new way to express the aspirations of the peoples who expressed them in the sixties and seventies through the Arab summit conference, and which must find other and various institutional modes on the popular level.

Q. It seems to me that the Arab information media, and the press in particular, do not play their role as they should in dealing with the realities of the situation, crystallising the priorities and consequently showing the way of the future. Our media swallow a lot of the terminology coined by the Zionists and often circulate it unwittingly. The lack of institutional research and a free flow of information, and the constant friction of ideas, make our national memory seem sometimes weak, and the vital issues blurred. Does your highness notice the same?

A. I do indeed. For example in my recent appearance before the European-Atlantic group in the British House of Commons, I was trying to stress Israeli economic difficulties and explain the link between Israel's vast debts of $18 billion and its occupation and settlement policies, because there are continued attempts in America and Europe to wipe the slate clean for Israel and exempt it from paying its debts. The meeting was open and also, as it seems, infiltrated by the friends of Israel, who as some people said were sent by the foreign bureau of the Israeli minister of agriculture. They directed their questions at me concerning the so-called alternative home of the Palestinians.

Naturally the exchange of question and answer was tense and to be the benefit of my argument, which prompted a British guest to apologise and describe me as an exemplary guest speaker. However, I was surprised the next day to find the headlines in some Arabic newspapers highlighting of all things, the fact that I spoke to representatives of the Israeli press. The Arab press not only missed the real story, but made itself an unwitting vehicle for Israeli propaganda, which sought at the time nothing but to blackmail Jordan and try and discredit it among the Arab masses.

It is the duty, I believe, of every intelligent Arab to bring the facts home to the enemy as their propaganda machine tries constantly to bring its poison home to us every day.

Q. As regards terminology, there is a perceptible shift now towards describing Jordan, and also Saudi Arabia, as having become "rejectionist", after having been moderate".

A. As far as Jordan is concerned, it is clear that if it wants to initiate a certain dialogue with the Soviet Union, then its "moderation" is put in question by the questionable media.

Q. Mr. Haig described the views of his administration as identical with those of Jordan; so did some Soviet diplomats, describing the Soviet and Jordanian stands as congruent. Is Jordan nearer to the U.S. or the USSR?

A. Our relations with the powers derive from our own independent view of our cause, and their stand on each component of the Palestinian problem and its solution. International relations are not as simple as to be "with" or "against".

When we call for the participation of the Soviet Union in the process of comprehensive peace as soon as possible, this goes also as a reminder of what had been agreed upon by the two superpowers. The Soviet Union may be friendly to the Arabs and their cause, but its stand is closely tied to the Security Council's resolutions. That should not obscure our vision of many important issues, such as the demographic problem being created in the occupied Arab lands as a result of the inflow of Jewish immigrants according to American-Soviet agreement.

I do not see how some can have unrealistic aspirations as a result of traditional friendship with this or that power, without trying to assess continuously the various positions. We (the Arab media) lack proper information, and often courage to face the facts. Hence what you described as the weak memory and oversimplification of complex matters.

Take for example the Baghdad summit agreement some two years ago, which provided for the necessity of keeping the area free of foreign intervention. Jordan's position has been consistent with such an agreement, as expressed in his majesty's five points. I think on the other hand that the Gulf Council of Economic Cooperation is not far from this, and should not be far from it. But as a result of a misconceived linkage between some Western statements, such as those of Mrs. Thatcher of Britain which have been since corrected, some people jump to the conclusion that this grouping is "with" or "against". Such oversimplification reminds us of the many earlier frustrations, when any Arab grouping in any form or another was branded as "with" or "against". Unfortunately we (the media) do not go further or deeper in analysis. Once again I say that research institutes are necessary, within and outside the community of the Arab media.

I have sought to draw out discussion on food security by talking about the 40 million tons of wheat which the area will need by the end of this decade, as I did stress in many meetings investment in infrastructure for irrigation projects, dams and catering for the needs of low-income people. Much more in-depth discussion is needed. What is to become of the agricultural land which is constantly giving way to the creeping real estate? Unfortunately we are accustomed to waiting for injunction from above. We have much to learn about self-reliance.

Q. Your Highness, I know that your time is limited. Thank you very much.

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES, HOLDS TALKS

NC162058 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Van der Klaauw, the Netherlands foreign affairs minister and chairman of the EEC Council, arrived in Beirut at 1400 today from the Netherlands on a visit to Lebanon within a tour of various capitals in the area. Van der Klaauw was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, the Netherlands ambassador to Lebanon, French Ambassador Louis Delamare and a number of EEC representatives in Beirut.

In a statement at the airport on the purpose of his visit, Van der Klaauw said: The EEC adopted a resolution in Venice last year to study the possibility of launching a European initiation on the Middle East. Thorn came to the Middle East, but at the time certain issues relevant to the occupied territories, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the area's security were still unresolved. I believe that solutions must be found to all these issues.

Van der Klaauw added: During my current tour I will try to find the necessary solutions to these problems. While I am in Lebanon I will discuss the situation in Lebanon with Lebanese officials, because the European countries are very interested in what is currently happening in Lebanon. He noted that during the latest meeting of the European Parliament, a resolution on the situation in Lebanon was adopted.

Asked about the possibility of success for a European initiative in Lebanon, Van der Klaauw said: So far, I cannot say whether a European initiative on Lebanon will succeed or not. I will visit a number of countries that are directly concerned and learn their views. After that I will submit a report on my visit to the European Parliament in June. Asked whether reports on Lebanon submitted to international forums showed any results and whether this time his report will have any better luck, Van der Klaauw replied: As yet, there is no specific formula to tackle the Middle East issue.

Asked whether he is more optimistic than Thorn about a solution, Van der Klaauw said: I am by nature optimistic and know that my mission is almost impossible. However, I believe that impossible missions can succeed.

Asked on what basis the latest European Parliament resolution on Lebanon was adopted, the Netherlands foreign minister said: I believe that the European parliamentarians discussed this among themselves. As a government, we want to do all we can to preserve Lebanon's unity and sovereignty over all its territory. We consider this extremely important for peace in the Middle East and for the Lebanese people in particular.

Asked about the Israeli Government's announcement that any European initiative that did not take Israel's interests into consideration would be doomed to failure, he said: The interests of all--Israel and the Palestinians--must be taken into account. All issues in the area are connected.

Asked what countries he would visit, Van der Klaauw said: Lebanon and Syria, and I will talk with the Palestinians there. Asked whether he would meet with Syrian officials, Van der Klaauw said: This is not the basic aim of my tour. However, I will discuss the situation with them. I will also discuss the Middle East question and the situation in Lebanon with the Palestinians.

Asked about the nature of the discussions with Lebanese officials, he said: The situation in Lebanon is extremely important. I will discuss it with President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Butrus. As soon as he arrived the European envoy left for the Republican Palace, where he met with Foreign Minister Butrus. President Sarkis received Van der Klaauw at 1730. He is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister al-Wazzan tomorrow morning.

HADDAD SPEAKS ON ZAHLAH SITUATION, UNIFIL DUTIES

NC161345 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0955 GMT 16 Apr 81

[16 April speech by "free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad--place not given; live or recorded--speech preceded and followed by Lebanese national anthem]

[Text] Dear listeners: Good day. I have something to say to you after what happened in all Lebanon, after the massacre of Zahlah and the savage shelling against the eastern part of Beirut. All of you [words indistinct] and touched and unhappy from the savage actions of the Syrians against the Christians. And now there is some kind of cease-fire around Zahlah and in Beirut, but this cease-fire is not so strong; there is no real security for the innocent people because there is always some sniping or some shells falling here and there.

As for the situation in Zahlah, where they say there is a cease-fire--but what is going on there? Now Zahlah is surrounded and closed very tightly; nobody can go in Zahlah. What kind of cease-fire it is? Two hundred thousand people in a state without supplies, without human help, letting them die slowly and the world is only watching and observing the Syrians damaging Lebanon.

I say, in the beginning a big noise. Many voices were heard from all parts of the world against the Syrian action and I was very glad to hear that the European countries took a decision to establish a strong cease-fire and asking the Syrian forces [word indistinct] to withdraw immediately from Lebanon [words indistinct] the right medicine or the sickness of Lebanon. And what happened after all? This decision stayed on paper only.

France was too much enthusiastic also to help stop Damascus against the Christians in Lebanon, but in the last moment they changed their attitude and they began to find an excuse why they did this. The French foreign minister held a meeting in France for the ambassadors in the Middle East. During the meeting their ambassador in Moscow came, without being invited, and attended the meeting. Why? Because the Russians sent him to attend the meeting and carry a message--a special message to the French Government. What was it? It was a warning to France not to go far by its mediation or its intention to establish [words indistinct].

Why? Because the Russians, they have an interest in Lebanon, they want to control Lebanon. France got afraid; other European countries got afraid also and all of them withdrew their proposals. What will be the end--the Russians pushing everywhere in the world to the free countries and the Free World (?is despairing), is afraid, is withdrawing always. Always when the Russians push, the free countries withdraw in their face; withdrawing in Vietnam, withdrawing in Pakistan, withdrawing Afghanistan and many other countries. Also, they will be withdrawing in Lebanon. Afterwards what will be?

So, there should be a time--a decisive time--for the Free World to decide to stop the Russian in the world and especially in the Middle East. What will be afterwards? Syrians will control all Lebanon. That means the Russians controlling Lebanon, and they are looking to have a harbor in Lebanon, and they will close Lebanon in the face of all the free countries, and as you know very well, Lebanon is the door of the Middle East.

That means all the Middle East will fall in the hands of the Russians and, as you see, the Russians' danger is much more bigger than the Israeli danger, as Saudi Arabia's planes on receiving the American foreign minister, Mr Alexander Haig. Israel is a part of the free countries and the world can deal with Israel. Israel used to look forward to the Security Council and to all the decisions and did not betray its friends in the free countries, but the Soviet Union will never listen to any free country or to any resolution from the Security Council.

So, as I see, it is time for the free countries to wake up to see the danger coming to them, to their houses. Inside the American Continent, the communists will keep on pushing, pushing and pushing. Anyhow, the good result of all the events in Lebanon must be seen in the truth, which became obvious for everybody and for the free countries to discover themselves by their [word indistinct] that the Lebanese authority is not a legitimate authority; that the legitimate authority represented by President Sarkis is not working for Lebanon.

All the free countries are now saying: We want to help the legitimate authority and we want a request from the legitimate authority to intervene. But, unfortunately, the so-called legitimate authority did not say any word against the Syrian aggression made against the innocent Lebanese in Zahlah or in any other place in Lebanon. So you see, on the contrary, they rejected all the foreign proposals. Even, they said by the name of the prime minister, Shafiq al-Wazzan, that [it was] an internal problem. Who can believe that? Anyhow, from now on I am talking on behalf or I am talking for Lebanon: Nobody, no any free country should talk to any representative of the legitimate authority.

And, you see, I address the UN soldiers being here in the south and not able to do nothing, to do something to help your brother [word indistinct] being separate like sheep in Zahlah and other places, and we think you are here to help the legitimate authority to establish peace. And you see very well now that the legitimate authority is working for the Syrians and not for Lebanon. And you, you think that you are working for the legitimate authority--that means that you are working for the Syrians. I am sure that no one of you will like to serve the Syrians.

Why don't you call your governments. Why don't you put more pressure upon them to tell them we want really to help Lebanon but in the right way. You have to go to the capital to begin establishing and reestablishing the Lebanese sovereignty and taking the place of the Syrians. You have to go to Zahlah to deblock the block which was made against Zahlah.

In the war of 1973, when the 3d or 4th Egyptian Army--I don't know, one of them, I think the 3d--was surrounded in Sinai by the IDF. So what happened? Afterwards, 2 days, the Egyptian soldiers began deserting and coming to the IDF asking them for food and water. [Words indistinct] and they insured a road for supplies for this surrounded army and from a humanitarian point of view, Israel approved and accepted. And here Zahlah, a Lebanese town, and Lebanese people, civilian people, children, women, old men surrounded without any issue, without a supply road and without an evacuation road and now nobody is able to force these savage Syrians to open a road.

What became to the human principles and human rights? Lebanese people, there is no more conscience in the world. I hope you, UN soldiers, representatives of many governments, I hope that you will contact your governments and put more pressure on them and ask them to intervene and to use you in the right way to help the Lebanese people and to help the Lebanese sovereignty. Thank you very much.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RECEIVES UN'S URQUHART

JN151727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Apr 81

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received at noon today Brian Urquhart, UN assistant secretary general, who arrived in Damascus this morning. The meeting was attended by Nasir Qaddur, assistant minister of foreign affairs, and Maj Gen 'Adnan Tayyarah, head of the Syrian side in the United Nations disengagement observer force.

DAMASCUS REASSERTS NATION'S CAPABILITIES

JN111553 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It is no coincidence that U.S. Secretary of State Gen Alexander Haig came to the Middle East to try to liquidate the Palestinian question in the name of confronting the alleged Soviet threat and that pressures and threats against Syria intensified at the same time. The United States and the whole world know that to Syria and its struggler leader, Hafiz al-Asad, the Palestinian question is the main and central issue in the Arab world. Therefore, by trying to liquidate the Palestinian question by enforcing surrender or imperialist theories--claiming that the danger to the area is not the Zionist entity's aggressive and expansionist policy but other dangers and calling on the Arabs and Israel to cooperate with it to avert this danger--the United States clashes with the firm, principled stands upheld by Syria and its leader, Hafiz al-Asad.

It is not strange, therefore, that the way for Alexander Haig's visit was paved by the flareup provoked by the Phalangist gangs in Lebanon, a flareup which Israel immediately backed with quixotic statements and threats and more attacks on southern Lebanon. It is also not strange that the regimes of Husayn and Saddam Husayn intensified their psychological warfare and propaganda campagin against Syria, to the extent of telling cheap lies such as their claim that Iranian planes raiding Iraq took off from Syria. Furthermore, it is not strange for Zionist and world reactionary circles to cooperate in creating a big uproar and telling lies about Syria and for the U.S. Congress to demand cancellation of the $130 million appropriated for Syria in the U.S. budget. Syria has neither requested this sum nor does it have any say in proposing or cancelling it.

The enemies of the Arab nation may intensify their pressure, threats and provocations against Syria, but one important fact must be clear to both friend and foe, as it is clear to all the Arab masses: Syria, under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad, will not succumb to pressure nor fear threats. Its convictions will not be affected by outside influences and it will continue to hold the initiative in the area. So long as it depends on its own power, its alliance with the Palestinian revolution and all the national revolutionary and progressive forces in th Arab world, the support and positive response of the Arab masses and its strong ties with all the enemies of imperialism, racism and Zionism in the world, Syria will continue to possess the national will to act independently and the ability to reply firmly to all the provocations, challenges and plots and to stop the U.S. march on the area.

ALGERIA

OPENING OF NONALIGNED NAMIBIA CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD162238 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Correspondent Khelifa Ben Gara report from Palais des Nations, Algiers, on opening session of Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Movement on 16 April]

[Excerpts] Algeria has been elected, in the person of Foreign Minister brother Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, as chairman of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau on the Namibian question. That was after the official opening of the meeting at 1710 this afternoon at the Palais des Nations by the current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Cuban foreign Minister Mr Isidoro Malmierca.

In his address, Mr Malmierca said that this meeting, held in the capital of revolutionary Algeria in accordance wiht the decision taken in New Delhi last February, is to examine the present situation in Namibia with a view to extending assistance to the people of Namibia, represented by their organization, SWAPO.

This was reaffirmed by Mr Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia when he made his opening speech. He said that the Nonaligned Movement has a new mission in Africa, especially in these conditions when the Namibian people are being placed in [words indistinct]. The Nonaligned Movement, he said, has a considerable role to play, and the independence of Zimbabwe is evidence of this.

All Africa, Mr Ben Yahia said, demands that the UN resolutions on the independence of Namibia should be implemented; and the continent therefore should do more for cooperation with the Nonaligned Movement in this respect, because this movement represents a considerable moral and political power. He stressed that the illegal occupation of Namibia by the Pretoria administration and the imperialist maneuvers threaten all the dark continent.

There is no solution to the Namibia question, Mr Ben Yahia said, except by liberating Namibia and enabling its people to govern. The effective answer to all the actions of the racist adminstration is to secure solidarity and joint efforts on the basis of the principles [word indistinct] and the just struggle of (?Namibia).

For his part, Mr Sam Nujoma, the leader of SWAPO, described this as a relevant meeting held at a time when there is an increase in the aggressiveness of imperialism and racism, because they both oppose progress and justice. He pointed out that monopolist capital is facing an acute economic crisis, and this is why it wants to make the Third World into a scapegoat. The slogans brandished about in order to justify racist aggressions are nothing but blows at the gradual development in the developing countries.

We must, Mr Nujoma said, preserve the stability of Africa, which is threatened mainly by South Africa. After denouncing the claims by the Western countries that they are working for the independence of Namibia, he said: We are prepared for the implementation of Resolution 435, issued by the UN Security Council in 1978, provided that the other party to the conflict works for its implementation in order to ensure the independence and territorial integrity of Namibia. A number of chief delegates spoke before Mr Sam Nujoma. They were the chief delegates of Guyana, Cyprus, Iraq, the PLO and Cuba. They all agreed on the need to expand aid to the Namibian people so that the struggle of this people may end with complete independence.

LIBYA

OFFICIAL DENOUNCES U.S. INTERVENTION IN GULF AREA

LD162304 Kuwait KUNA in English 1546 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Paris, 16 Apr (KUNA)--A prominent Libyan leader denounced Thursday U.S. plans for direct intervention in the Gulf region and Middle East in general.

Saed Hafyana currently on a visit here told KUNA that the U.S. deployment force was aimed at ensuring the superiority of the United States over the Arabian Gulf countries. He warned the United States to stay away from the Gulf region and added "We know our problems and can solve them without any outside intervention be it military, political or economic." Indeed there is a great danger threatening the Gulf security but Arab nations were competent enough to maintain their independence and security, he added.

However, he admitted that the main problem was Egypt and the 'Camp David plot'. He expressed concern over certain Arab countries who are normalising relations with President as-Sadat's regime. He condemned As-Sadat for offering military bases on Egyptian soil.

Hafyana also accused Sudan of violating the decisions taken at Baghdad summit and added that the Sudanese Government was moving into the footsteps of As-Sadat. He called on Arab nations to take drastic measures against Sudan which had joined Egypt in collaborating with Israel.

Referring to Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's proposed visit to Italy, Hafyana said it was aimed at strengthening peace and security in the Mediterranean region and added that no external pressure could influence this objective.

MOROCCO

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ARRIVES FROM MAURITANIA

LD162155 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Rabat this evening for talks with Moroccan officials. At Sale Airport he made a statement to our radio correspondent. He said: In furtherance of the Arab League council resolution entrusting the Arab League secretary general with the task of exerting efforts to restore relations between the fraternal countries of Morocco and Mauritania to normalcy, I began the first part of this mission yesterday by visiting Nouakchott, where I had talks with the Mauritaian president and members of his government, headed by the prime minister. I listened to the views of the Mauritanian Government on the bilateral conflict. Today I complete this first stage of my mission by visiting Morocco, where I will have the honor of meeting with his majesty the king and will listen to his views. The meeting will help me to find ways to restore the relations between the two countries to the level of trast that should exist between them.

The Arab League secretary general was welcomed at the airport by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, Tunisian Ambassador to Rabat Slahhedine Abdallah and other dignitaries.

TANZANIA

MATERIALS ON VISIT BY SFRY'S MIJATOVIC 12-15 APR

Economic, Technical Accord

LD142106 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1657 GMT 14 Apr 81

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 14 Apr (TANJUG)--A programme of Yugoslav-Tanzanian economic and technical cooperation, which provides for the designing and construction of a number of facilities in Tanzania with the participation of Yugoslav enterprises, was signed here today.

Under the programme, a farm for the production of oil-bearing crops is to be developed on one thousand hectares of land in Tanzania with the participation of Yugoslav enterprises and with the possibility of the area's further extension. Yugoslavia has offered favourable terms for the designing of plans for water regulation and agricultural works on the Mari River, provided Yugoslav enterprises are engaged in these projects.

Agreement was also reached on the construction in Tanzania of an assembly line for car-trailers, exploration of the possibilities of building a textile factory with Yugoslav technology and equipment, and erection of a long-distance power transmission line.

Another point discussed was the sending of a number of Yugoslav experts to Zanzibar to explore the possibilities of cooperation in the fields of tourism, maritime transport and fisheries.

During the signing ceremony, the Tanzanian side expressed gratitude to Yugoslavia for its [words indistinct] that a concrete, ambitious programme providing for further development of economic cooperation between the two non-aligned friendly countries was signed during the current visit to Tanzania by President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia Cvijetin Mijatovic.

Mijatovic today visited the Tanzanian model village Kibugumo and the "friendship" [word indistinct] in the vicinity of Dar es Salaam.

At President Nyerere's initiative, the Kibugamo village has embarked upon the road of transformation on the principles of the [words indistinct] of Tanzania's programme of building socialism through self-reliance.

Communique Issued

LD150818 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1808 GMT 14 Apr 81

[Text] The following joint communique was issued in Dar es Salaam tonight at the end of the official friendly visit to the United Republic of Tanzania by Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency:

Cvijetin Jijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, paid an official friendly visit to the United Republic of Tanzania from 12 to 15 April 1981 at the invitation of Julius Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The following officials participated in the talks, which took place in an atmosphere of sincere friendship and cordiality:

On the Yugoslav side: Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency; Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs; Vajo Skendzic, member of the Federal Executive Council; Col Gen Janko Susnjar, assistant federal secretary for national defense; Milorad Komatina, SFRY ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania; Milivoje Maksic, counselor for foreign policy questions to the president of the SFRY Presidency; Rajko Gligorovic, head of the office of the president of the SFRY Presidency [position as received]; and Ramadan Marmulaku, director of the office for Sub-Saharan Africa in the federal secretariat for foreign affairs [position as received].

On the Tanzania side: Julius Kambarage Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania; Aboud Jumbe, vice president of the United Republic of Tanzania; Cleopa D. Msyua, Prime minister; Salim Salim, minister of foreign affairs; Basil Mramba, minister of industries; Joseph Mungai, minister of agriculture; C.M.M. Masanja, chief secretary in the Ministry of Defense and Army; J.W. Butiku, personal assistant to the president; P. Sozigwa, member of the Central Committee and press secretary to the president; Dr D.J. Bantu, head of Europe and America [as received]; A. Kassam, personal assistant to the president; B.A.N. Hyera, adviser in the administration for Europe and America.

Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Julius Nyerere carried out a comprehensive exchange of views on the development of cooperation between the two countries and on topical international issues.

During the talks the two sides noted with satisfaction the successful development of traditional friendship and cooperation between the two nonaligned countries, whose firm and lasting foundations were laid by Presidents Josip Broz Tito and Julius Nyerere. On this occasion both sides voiced readiness to develop and promote this cooperation in the future in every way.

Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Julius Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, positively assessed the practice of mutual meetings and exchanges of views on questions of bilateral relations and world developments and especially on nonaligned countries' activities. They agreed that this very useful practice should continue.

Analyzing the existing situation in the world, the two sides noted with anxiety the dangerous exacerbation of the international situation. They concluded that the causes of such a state of affairs can be found in the failure to deal with existing and new crises in various parts of the world, in the increasingly frequent practice of the use of force, in the pressure and interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, in the effort to maintain and expand spheres of influence, in the stepping-up of the arms race, in the deepening of the world economic crisis and in the failure to solve the acute problems of the developing countries.

The president of the SFRY Presidency and the president of Tanzania called for the revival of the policy of detente as a universal process in which all countries should participate on an equal footing. In this connection they stressed that respect for the sovereignty and independence of all states and for the rights of every people to decide their own internal development without interference from outside, and the peaceful resolution of disputes between states on the principles of the UN Charter and political nonalignment are indispensable for the stable development of international relations.

The two sides stressed the need for constant involvement in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, hegemonism, racism, apartheid and all other forms of domination because they constitute a constant threat to the independence, sovereignty and development of nations and countries and endanger peace and security in the world.

The two sides reaffirmed their countries' adherence to the policy of nonalignment and stressed the great significance which the Nonaligned Movement has as a political and moral force in the settling of international political and economic problems and in the democratization of international relations.

In this context they stressed that the further consolidation of the Nonaligned Movement and its affirmation as an independent and nonbloc factor is in the interest of the entire international community. In this connection, Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and President Julius Nyerere voiced particular satisfaction with the success of the nonaligned countries' ministerial conference in New Delhi, which displayed a high level of unity and reaffirmed the fundamental principles of the policy of nonalignment.

The attitudes and decisions of the conference once more confirmed the active capability of nonaligned countries and created the conditions for their even more active involvement in the international field. The two sides expressed Yugoslavia's and Tanzania's readiness to make the maximum contributions to the implementation of the decisions made at the conference.

The two sides expressed anxiety over the conflicts and clashes between individual nonaligned countries and stressed the need to settle them through negotiations on the principles of the UN Charter and the policy of nonalignment.

In considering the situation in Africa, they noted with deep anxiety that despite the significant victories of the liberation struggle, to which the recent creation of independent Zimbabwe testifies, Africa is still affected by the twin problems of colonialism and racism.

In this connection, Cvijetin Mijatovic, the president of the SFRY Presidency, and Julius Nyerere, the president of the United Republic of Tanzania, held extensive talks on developments in southern Africa. They agreed that the constant illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, the maintenance of the system of apartheid, and the increased aggressive actions carried out against the frontline states by the Pretoria regime represent a serious threat to peace and security in the world and the region. They denounced the premediated aggression by South Africa against the frontline states, particularly the constant and flagrant attacks against the People's Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of Mozambique.

In connection with Namibia, the two sides noted that despite the joint efforts of the frontline states, the OAU and SWAPO to achieve a solution through negotiations, the way to such a solution continues to be blocked by the racist South African regime. This is clearly manifested by the regime's calculated sabotage of the recent meeting in Geneva. They again confirmed their support for the UN plan embodied in Resolution No 435 (of 1978) adopted by the UN Security Council. This resolution, among other things, envisages the holding of free elections under the supervision and control of the United Nations, which would lead to the independence of Namibia. In this connection they recalled the special responsibility of the United States, Great Britain, France, Canada and the FRG, which are members of the Western contact group which initiated this plan.

The two sides offered their unshakable support to SWAPO as the only authentic and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. They called on the international community to offer effective moral, material and diplomatic support to enable SWAPO to increase the struggle on all fronts.

Concerning South Africa, the two sides sharply condemned the policy of apartheid and confirmed that the elimination of apartheid is the responsibility of the entire international community. To this end, they reemphasized their support for the liberation movements in southern Africa and called on all countries in the world to redouble their efforts in extending support to the liberation movements in southern Africa and in isolating South Africa in all fields in order to destroy the system of apartheid, which represents a crime against mankind.

The two sides emphasized the special role and importance of the frontline states in the efforts to eliminate colonialism, racism and apartheid in southern Africa and emphasized the need for greater activity in extending support and help to these countries, and especially in opposing the aggressive acts of the South African regime.

Regarding the question of the Western Sahara, the two sides expressed their concern that despite the resolutions of the United Nations, the OAU and the nonaligned countries the people of this country are still denied the right to self-determination and independence. The two sides repeated their unreserved support for the people of the Western Sahara led by Polisario. They demanded that the international community extend effective support to the people of that country and to their struggle for self-determination and independence. [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 2212 GMT on 14 April transmits a correction which deletes the last two sentences of above paragraph]

Regarding the situation in the Near and Middle East, the two sides pointed out that need for a global solution of the Middle East crisis including the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state on their national soil and the recognition of the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

They also expressed great concern about the continued Iraqi-Iranian conflict and noted the danger of its expansion and of its effect on peace and security in the region and elsewhere. The two sides stated that this conflict should be solved by political means in keeping with the UN Charter, international law and the policy of nonalignment. The president of the SFRY Presidency and the president of the United Republic of Tanzania support the efforts of the nonaligned countries, Islamic countries and the United Nations to find a peaceful and just solution to the problem between these two nonaligned countries.

Examining the situation in individual parts of Asia, the two sides said that the existing problems and hotbeds of crisis, such as Afghanistan and Kampuchea, seriously burden not only relations on this continent but also on a wider international plane. They agreed that a solution should be found to these problems based on political talks, on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops and the impermissibility of any foreign intervention and with full respect for the independence and sovereignty, territorial integrity and nonaligned status of these countries.

They expressed deep concern about the dangerous tension created in the Indian Ocean by increased foreign military presence and the spread of foreign bases and military installations in this region and appealed to all countries to refrain from all actions which could exacerbate the tension prevailing in the Indian Ocean. They also confirmed their readiness to strive for the success of the conference on the Indian Ocean which is to be held in Sri Lanka in 1981.

The two sides expressed deep concern about the constant intensification of the arms race. They pointed out that great dangers which emanate from the spreading of the spheres of influence and from the inclusion of new areas into bloc rivalry. All this is especially reflected in the pressure exerted on the independence and sovereignty of the nonaligned countries, which causes general insecurity and threatens world peace.

They paid special attention to the international economic problems and expressed great concern about the increasingly difficult situation of the developing countries, especially the most undeveloped ones. They stressed that this is the result of the insufficient understanding of the developed countries of the position of the developing countries and of their lack of readiness to embark on an urgent solution of acute economic problems. It was jointly assessed that the continuation of this situation is leading to the general deterioration of international relations which makes the emancipation of a large number of developing countries even more difficult.

On this occasion the two sides again confirmed their readiness to join the efforts of the nonaligned and other developing countries to establish a new international economic order, which is in the interest of the entire international community and in the interest of cooperation based on equality and security in the world.

The two sides positively assessed the recent ministerial meeting of the group of 11 developed and developing countries in Vienna and expressed the hope that the forthcoming summit meeting in Mexico, which is planned for October of this year, will give significant impetus to the global talks and contribute to a more realistic approach to the search for solutions to major problems of international economic relations. The two sides confirmed their readiness to contribute to the success of the Mexico summit.

The Yugoslav side acquainted President Nyerere with the situation in Europe and with the work of the CSCE meeting in Madrid, as well as with the efforts of nonaligned and neutral countries to ensure the success of the meeting and to work for the further affirmation of cooperation and security in Europe on the basis of the Helsinki final act. The maintenance and further intensification of the process will contribute to the efforts to halt the exacerbation of the international situation and to intensify the endeavours being made to apply the standards of the policy of detente in all the parts of the world so that detente can become a genuine universal process extending to all the spheres of international life and all the regions of the world.

Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency and Julius Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, briefed each other on the development of the two countries. They noted with satisfaction that all the conditions exist for the further intensification and comprehensive development of mutual cooperation, to which this visit made a particular contribution. Attention was also drawn in this connection to the need for and usefulness of developing closer coopeation between the political and social organizations of the two countries.

Particular attention was paid during the talks to the intensification and expansion of all forms of economic cooperation. In supporting the initiatives made by business organizations in this field, the two sides recommended that the mixed committee for economic and scientific-technical cooperation and the appropriate departments of the two governments adopt concrete measures for this purpose.

The two sides signed a program of economic, technical and cultural cooperation for the period 1981-83 and an agreed record of minutes on economic cooperation.

The president of the SFRY Presidency hailed the achievements of the people of Tanzania in economic, social and political spheres under the leadership of the United Revolutionary Party.

The president of the United Republic of Tanzania highly appraised the achievements of the SFRY in building socialism under the leadership of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, LCY.

The two sides expressed great satisfaction with the visit and the talks, which once more confirmed the existence of traditional friendship between Yugoslavia and Tanzania. It was noted that successful cooperation between the two nonaligned countries is in the interests of the peoples of Yugoslavia and Tanzania and of progress and peace in the world.

Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, expressed his cordial gratitude to President Nyerere and the friendly people of Tanzania for the very warm and cordial welcome extended to him personally and to his delegation.

Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, invited President Nyerere on behalf of the SFRY Presidency to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of the visit will be set at a later time.

NIGER

MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT, KOUNTCHE HOLD TALKS 16 APR

AB162031 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Excerpt] The Mauritanian head of state, Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, has ended his working visit to our country. The principle of the creation of a joint commission on cooperation was adopted. In a statement shortly before he left our country, the Mauritanian head of state expressed the gratitude of his delegation and the Mauritanian people to President Kountche, the government and the Niger people for the warm reception and the lavish hospitality accorded him and his delegation during his visit:

[Begin recording] My talks with my brother and friend President Seyni Kountche were held a expected in a frank and friendly atmosphere. The two delegations discussed various issues and decided to set up a joint commission on cooperation. The joint commision will hold its first meeting as soon as possible. I am returning home with a feeling of great satisfaction.

I want to take this opportunity to express the gratitude of the Mauritanian delegation and people to President Seyni Kountche, the Supreme Military Council, the government and people of the Republic of Niger for the warm welcome and the lavish hospitality we received during our visit. [end recording]

NIGERIA

UPN PARTY ISSUES STATEMENT ON DISTURBANCES

AB162234 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Text] The Unity Party of Nigeria [UPN] has described the recent acts of vandalism and murder in (Madakike) and Ife as unfortunate and regrettable. The party's national director of research and publicity and the national director for organization commented in a joint statement that it was untrue and mischievious to say that its leader, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, prevented the creation of (Madakike) local government. It said that when the proposal for the local government was made to Chief Awolowo, he sent Mr Ebenezer Babatope to Ibadan to present the case to governor Bola Ige for consideration. The statement explained that chief Awolowo had never, since the inception of the normal democratic process, interfered with any of the governments of the five controlled UPN states.

All his contacts which were made with the party functionaries in the various organs of government have been within party caucus and also within the principles of party supremacy. The statement said it was clear that the NPN, [National Party of Nigeria], in a bid to cover it criminal folly, has been lying unashamedly about the (Madakike affair). The UPN welcomes the step taken by the Oyo State Governor to arrest the situation in the troubled areas. It pledges sincere commitment of peace, progress and stability of Nigeria. Meanwhile, the Oyo state police command has warned against the circulation of false information about the Ife and (Madakike) conflict. The police commissioner, Alhaji Omolowo, was reacting to a news item on NTV [Nigerian Television] Ibadan yesterday that a vehicle loaded with arms and ammunitions was seized by his men at Ile Ife, during the disturbances. Meanwhile, the number of arrests by police in the state of the riot was risen to fourteen.